

10 Mar 2011

OPNAV Report Symbol 5750-1
Command Serial Number: 09922
Date Submitted: 01MAR14

Classification (when filled in): UNCLASSIFIED

Command Operations Report

This report is required by commands listed in **SNDL Parts 1 & 2** and all operational **Task Forces, Groups and Units** temporarily established to meet operational requirements.

The report format is divided into six sections: Command Data, Commander's Assessment, Chronology and Narrative, Supporting Reports, Published Documents, and Photographs. Required information is identified in specific sections of the form. See instructions appendices for assistance in compiling and on submitting this form and any attachments.

Electronic documents should be in a Microsoft Office format (Word, Excel, Power Point, or Access), HTML, PDF, JPG, GIF or plain text. Documents in electronic format are to be submitted via e-mail or on CD-ROM as explained at the end of this form. It is unnecessary to convert non-electronic documents to electronic format. List any enclosures that are not electronic and submit in hardcopy in the same manner as a CD-ROM. Photographs submitted electronically should be in JPG, TIFF or GIF format.

1. Command Data (Boxes will expand as information is typed)

Name of your Command or Organization: Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron ONE TWO FIVE (VAW-125), Callsign "Tigertails"

Unit Identification Code (UIC), per the SNDL: 09922

Name and Rank of Commander/Commanding Officer/Officer in Charge:

Last: Wilson First: Timothy M.I.: A. Rank: CDR

Date Assumed Command (date format YYYY-MM-DD): 2013-10-03

Mission/Command Employment/Area of Operations: Providing carrier-based airborne early warning and command and control for Carrier Air Wing ONE and Joint Force Commanders, employing the E-2D Advanced Hawkeye aircraft. VAW-125 operated in a non-deployed status during 2013.

Permanent Location (Home Port for deployable units): Naval Station Norfolk, VA

Immediate Superior In Command:

Operational: Commander, Carrier Air Wing One

Administrative: Commander, Airborne Command Control and Logistics Wing

Identify your assigned Task Force/Group/Unit name(s) and mission(s). Include OPLAN(s) and or named operations you participated in during Task Force assignment (if applicable): N/A

Name(s) of Forces, Commands, Ships, Squadrons or Units assigned or under your operational control (if applicable): N/A

Type and number of Aircraft Assigned and Tail Codes, if applicable:

Four E-2D Advanced Hawkeye aircraft as of 31 Dec 2013:

Side: 600 / Serial: 168592

Side: 601 / Serial: 168593

Side: 603 / Serial: 168077

Side: 604 / Serial: 168276

Commands, Detachments or Units deployed on board or stationed aboard as tenant activities (as applicable): N/A

Number of Personnel Assigned:

Officers: 29 Enlisted: 135 Civilian: 0

Command Point of Contact (required entry, complete in full):

Name (Rank, First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name): LCDR (b) (6)

Job Title/Office Code: Admin Officer

E-mail (both classified and unclassified, if available): (b) (6) and

(b) (6)

Phone number(s): 757-444-9027

Command Mailing Address: 1027 Bellinger Blvd. Suite 300, Norfolk, VA 23511

2. Commander's Assessment

VAW-125 began 2013 with two E-2C Mission Computer Upgrade – Advanced Control Indicator Set (MCU-ACIS) aircraft. Despite having only two aircraft of the four normally allotted to E-2C squadrons, VAW-125 provided expert support to Carrier Air Wing SEVENTEEN's Strike Fighter

Advanced Readiness Program (SFARP). Strong efforts from our aircrew, maintainers, and our supply system support enabled two strike fighter squadrons to meet all of their training objectives in a fiscally austere environment. Upon our return, we shifted our focus to divesting our remaining two E-2C aircraft and associated equipment and moving to the E-2D transition hangar. May marked the transition to our new ISIC, Commander Carrier Air Wing ONE and the end of operational availability.

The transition began in earnest in June. The Fleet Replacement Squadron, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron ONE TWO ZERO (VAW-120), scheduled training and flight events. While aircrew underwent training, many maintenance personnel attended rate-specific E-2D training.

Field Carrier Landing Practice (FCLP) and Carrier Qualification (CQ) marked the culmination of aircrew training. VAW-125 pilots were included in the first group of E-2/C-2 pilots to conduct FCLP at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility, gaining valuable training and lessons learned for the E-2/C-2 community. CQ tested the flexibility and talents of my aircrew and maintainers, whose selfless determination led to carrier-qualified fleet pilots.

Immediately following CQ, focus was shifted to the Maintenance Program Assist inspection from Commander, Airborne Command Control and Logistics Wing that would authorize the squadron safe for flight. VAW-125 successfully passed the Safe-for-Flight inspection. Approval notification was received on 6 Jan 2014, marking a successful transition to the Navy's newest platform, the E-2D Advanced Hawkeye.

3. Chronology

09-27 FEB: Air-to-Air Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program Detachment Key West.

01-15 MAY: Moved from Hangar LP-33 to LP-34 Naval Station Norfolk.

01-31 DEC: VAW-125 transitioned from the E-2C to the E-2D aircraft.

03 OCT: Change of Command: CDR Timothy A. Wilson relieved CDR Scott A. Avery as Commanding Officer, VAW-125 in a ceremony aboard Naval Station Norfolk.

12-27 NOV: Field Carrier Landing Practice Detachment NASA Wallops Island, VA.

02-06 DEC: Carrier Qualification Detachment USS Theodore Roosevelt CVN-71

Narrative

With only two aircraft of the four normally allotted, VAW-125 provided outstanding support for two strike fighter squadrons during Air-to-Air Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program in February. Two aircraft remained out of our reporting and were not returned due to the E-2D transition. May marked the end of operational availability due to the transfer of two remaining E-2C aircraft and the beginning of the E-2D transition. CDR Wilson took command in October as

the transition neared its end, guiding the squadron through the first-ever FCLP detachment at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility and the first fleet CQ evolution with the E-2D. In a matter of days following CQ, we passed the stringent Safe-for-Flight inspection and prepared the Tigertails for operational tasking in 2014.

4. Supporting Reports (Refer to specific guide for Ship/Shore/Aviation or Fleet Command)

Battle E submission

5. Published Documents

VAW-125 CO Biography

VAW-125 XO Biography

Change of Command Program, 03OCT13

The Torch Winter/Spring 2013

<http://www.public.navy.mil/airfor/vaw125/Pages/default.aspx>

6. Photographs

CDR Timothy A. Wilson (CO) Photo

CDR Daryl E. Trent (XO) Photo

E-2D

Command photo Oct 2013

Submit this Command Operations Report as follows:

Via e-mail, to email address: archives@navy.mil

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For electronic submissions or questions concerning the completion or submission of reports contact the following NHHC offices:

- Ships: shiphistory@navy.mil COM 202-433-3224; DSN 94-288-3224
- Aviation: aviationhistory@navy.mil COM 202-433-3224; DSN 94-288-3224
- Fleet and Shore Commands: archives@navy.mil COM 202-433-3224; DSN 94-288-3224

Classified address is archives@smil.mil



Commander
Timothy A. Wilson
United States Navy
Executive Officer
VAW-125



Commander Wilson is a native of (b) (6) having graduated high school in 1987 from Canyon High, Canyon County, Calif. He enlisted in 1989 to the Naval Nuclear Power Program. As an Electronics Technician, Petty Officer Wilson attended Nuclear Field ET "A" School where he was distinguished as class honor man, appointed as an instructor at ET "A" School, and a distinguished graduate of Naval Nuclear Power School. He was commissioned in 1995 through the University of Southern California NROTC scholarship program having earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Physics. He continued his Naval Career as a student Naval Aviator.

Upon completion of flight school in 1997, Commander Wilson reported to the "Greyhawks" of VAW-120, the E-2C Hawkeye Fleet replacement Squadron at NAS Norfolk, Virginia. After carrier qualifications in the Hawkeye, he was assigned to the VAW-124 "Bear Aces" aboard the USS ROOSEVELT (CVN-71) where his very next trap as a new winged Aviator was during wartime strike missions into Kosovo during OPERATION ALLIED FORCE on the "tip of the spear". During this period he was recognized as the Hawkeye Pilot of the Year (at Sea) 2002.

Following his first fleet sea tour, Commander Wilson went on to complete an instructor shore tour with the Fleet Replacement Squadron VAW-120 "Greyhawks". After completing this shore tour, he returned to a disassociated sea tour assigned to the Carrier Air Group Three (CAG-3) staff. During an at sea period with CAG-3, he was hand selected with a group of seven Officers and flown to Eglin AFB, Florida to stand up the Naval Air Liaison Element in support of Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts.

After refresher training at VAW-120, he reported to the "Wallbangers" of VAW-117 Point Mugu California as a Department Head and again completed several western Pacific deployments as the Operations Officer and Maintenance Officer. Following that sea tour he was assigned to Naval War College in Newport, RI where he earned a Master of Arts Degree in National Strategic Studies. His next tour was also a non-flying joint tour serving for US Africa Command's Commander's personal staff and Joint Operations Center Team Chief during the Libyan conflict.

Commander Wilson has accumulated over 3,300 flight hours, over 350 arrested landings. He received the 2002 Navy Junior Officer Leadership Award by Commander, Naval Air Forces, "Hawkeye Pilot of the Year Award" recipient, Top Nugget Pilot, numerous "Top 10" Pilot and "Top Hook" recognitions, and is authorized to wear the Joint Meritorious Unit Commendation Medal, Air Medal (four awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (five awards), Joint Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various unit, campaign and service awards.



Commander
Daryl E. Trent
United States Navy
Executive Officer
VAW-125



CDR Daryl Trent enlisted in the Navy from Richmond, VA in January 1988. Upon completion of Recruit Training at Great Lakes, Ill, he attended Operations Specialist "A" School at Dam Neck, VA and was assigned to the USS SCOTT (DDG 995) in Philadelphia, PA. In 1990, he completed a Mediterranean / Red Sea deployment in support of Operation DESERT SHIELD. In late 1990, CDR Trent transferred to the Fleet Training Unit, Atlantic where he was assigned as an Anti-Air Warfare Instructor, earning his Master Training Specialist designation. In 1993, he was assigned to the USS ARLEIGH BURKE (DDG 51) and completed two Mediterranean deployments in support of Operations DESERT STORM, SHARP GUARD and DENY FLIGHT in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In 1995, he was assigned to TACTRAGRULANT and subsequently selected for the Enlisted Commissioning Program where he was assigned to the Hampton Roads NROTC consortium and completed a Bachelor of Science from NSU and was commissioned an Ensign in December 1997. After completing primary and intermediate training as a Naval Flight Officer (NFO) in Pensacola, Florida, he transferred to Chambers Field in Norfolk, Virginia, for advanced training in the E-2C Hawkeye where he earned his "Wings of Gold" in October 1999.

In March 2000, CDR Trent reported to the "Seahawks" of VAW-126, onboard USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75). He served as Legal Officer, Assistant Maintenance Officer and NFO NATOPS Officer. In December 2001, he graduated from the U.S. Navy Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN) at NAS Fallon, Nevada and was the 2002 Carrier Airborne Early Warning Wing Hawkeye NFO of the Year (Sea). He completed two Mediterranean / Arabian Gulf deployments in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH and flew combat missions during the initial air strikes of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM in the last squadron to deploy with E-2C Group Zero aircraft.

In 2003, CDR Trent joined the Weapons and Tactics Unit (Atlantic) and was designated a Weapons and Tactics Instructor (WTI) and was the Hawkeye Advanced Readiness Program Director. During this assignment he was selected as the 2005 Carrier Airborne Early Warning Wing Hawkeye NFO of the Year (Shore).

In 2005 following refresher training at VAW-120 in Norfolk, VA, CDR Trent reported to VAW-123. In his CAT 1A/WTI tour as a 'Screwtop' he deployed onboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.

In 2006, CDR Trent was assigned to the Navy Personnel Command in Millington, TN as the VAW-VRC Assignment Officer until November 2008. While serving as the community detailee, CDR Trent earned his Master of Science in Operations Management from the University of Arkansas.

In April 2009, CDR Trent reported to the "Bear Aces" of VAW-124 for his Department Head tour onboard USS GEORGE H. W. BUSH (CVN 77) where he held the jobs of Maintenance Officer and Operations Officer and participated in Operation UNIFIED RESPONSE while on detachment in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

In April 2011, CDR Trent reported to the "Greyhawks" of VAW-120, the E-2/C-2 fleet replacement squadron, where he served as the Executive Officer.

His personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Strike Flight Air Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (seven awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (four awards), and various unit, campaign, and service awards.



CHANGE OF COMMAND

CARRIER AIRBORNE
EARLY WARNING SQUADRON
ONE TWO FIVE



03 October 2013
LP-33
BELLINGER BOULEVARD

Program of Events

*** ARRIVAL HONORS FOR THE OFFICIAL PARTY**

*** COLOR GUARD, PARADE THE COLORS**

*** NATIONAL ANTHEM**

*** COLOR GUARD, POST THE COLORS**

*** INVOCATION**

LCDR Thomas Cook, Chaplain, U.S. Navy

GUEST SPEAKER REMARKS

CAPT Robert D. Boyer, U.S. Navy

REMARKS AND READING OF ORDERS

CDR Scott A. Avery, U.S. Navy

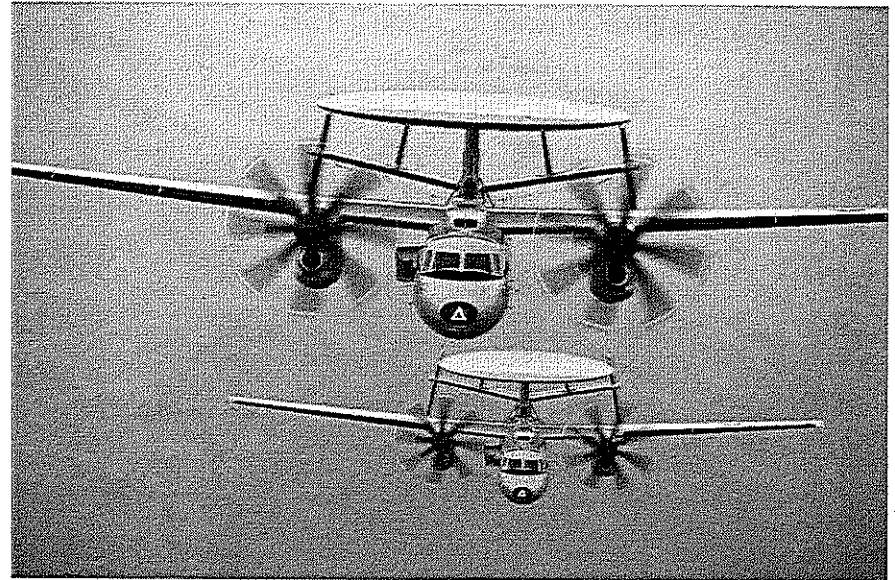
READING OF ORDERS AND REMARKS

CDR Timothy A. Wilson, U.S. Navy

*** BENEDICTION**

LCDR Thomas Cook, Chaplain, U.S. Navy

*** Guests, please stand**



Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 125 is often referred to as both the "Torchbearers" and the "Tigertails." While both names proudly identify VAW-125, they have very different origins.

The squadron's Officers and Enlisted men selected the name "Torchbearers" many years ago. The name symbolizes the Airborne Early Warning mission and is depicted in squadron insignia such as decals and patches. The design incorporates a torch, lightning bolt, and trident on a black background. The torch signifies our squadron's mission, to "light the way" for the rest of the air wing. The lightning bolt represents the sophisticated electronic equipment we use to accomplish this mission. Finally, the trident is a maritime symbol of naval sea power.

"Tigertail" is VAW-125's tactical call sign. This name is assigned to us by the Department of the Navy for use in airborne radio transmissions. This name distinguishes us from the other aircraft, ships, and airfields using the same frequency.

Both "Torchbearer" and "Tigertail" have come to be synonymous with the proud tradition of the most dedicated and professional E-2C Hawkeye squadron in the United States Navy.

I can imagine a no more rewarding career. And any man who may be asked in this century what he did to make his life worthwhile, I think can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction: "I served in the United States Navy."

- John F. Kennedy



Welcome to the VAW-125 Change of Command Ceremony!

Thank you for making the journey to Naval Station Norfolk for this ceremony. This special day is not only for the outgoing and incoming Commanding Officers, but rather it is for the men and women of the Tigertails, and the family and friends of the participants.

This long-standing Naval tradition of transferring authority dates back many hundreds of years and has no equivalent in the United States Army or Air Force. A large part of the strength of today's Navy lies in its tradition and ceremony while maintaining the flexibility to adapt to changing American ideals and national interests.

With this in mind, we welcome you and thank you for sharing your time with us. We hope you all enjoy the day's ceremony and festivities. Please feel free to stop any Tigertail if you have a question or comment. Once again, thank you for sharing this experience with us. God Bless!

CDR Scott A. Avery

CDR Timothy A. Wilson

The Change of Command Ceremony

The ceremony you witness today is not prescribed specifically by U.S. Naval Regulations, but rather is an honored product of the rich heritage of Naval tradition. It is a custom wholly Naval without counterpart in the Army or Air Force. Custom has established that this ceremony be formal and impressive, designated to strengthen the respect for authority which is vital to any military organization. Parading All Hands at Quarters and public reading of official orders stems from those days when movement of mail and persons was a very slow process. This procedure was designed to ensure that only duly authorized officers held command and that all aboard were made aware of its authenticity.

The heart of the ceremony is the formal reading of the official orders by the relieving Officer, and the Officer to be relieved. Command passes upon utterance by the relieving Officer, "I relieve you, Sir!" The Officer being relieved responds, "I stand relieved!" This simple procedure is duplicated hundreds of times daily throughout the Navies of the world as each watch Officer passes responsibility to his relief in the conduct of each ship's routine.

The strength and supremacy of today's Navy stems in large measure from the observance of customs and traditions each founded on need, each contributing its share to stability, combat effectiveness, and smooth transfer of authority. This simple ceremony passing authority and responsibility to yet another fine officer reflects the dedication of free men and women serving their nation proudly.

"The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who knows the enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause; who at best, if he wins, knows the thrills of high achievement, and if he fails, at least fails daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

- Theodore Roosevelt

The Sailors Creed

I am a United States Sailor.

I will support and defend the Constitution
of the United States of America and I will
obey the orders of those appointed over
me.

I represent the fighting spirit of the Navy
and those who have gone before me to
defend freedom and democracy around
the world.

I proudly serve my country's Navy combat
team with Honor, Courage and
Commitment.

I am committed to excellence and the fair
treatment of all.

Remembering the Forgotten Mechanic



*Through the history of world aviation many names have come to the fore
Great deeds of the past in our memory will last, as they're joined by more and more;*

*When man first started his labor in his quest to conquer the sky
He was designer, mechanic and pilot, and he built a machine that would fly;*

*But somehow the order got twisted, and then in the public's eye
The only man that could be seen was the man that knew how to fly;*

*The pilot was everyone's hero, he was brave, he was bold, he was grand
As he stood by his battered old biplane with his goggles and helmet in hand;*

*To be sure these pilots all earned it, to fly you have to have guts
And they blazed their names in the hall of fame on wings with bailing wire struts;*

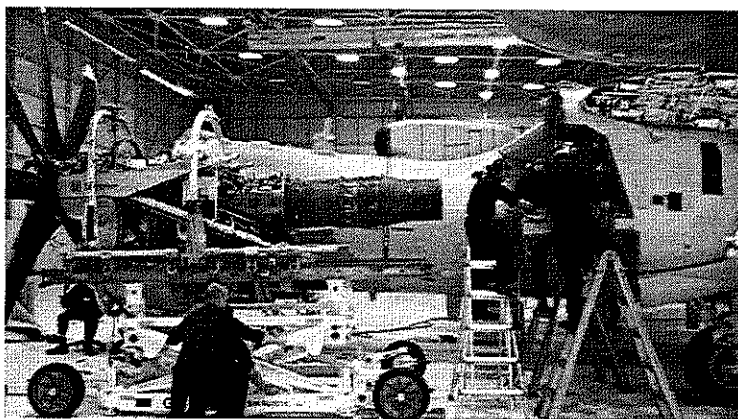
*But for each of these flying heroes there were thousands of little renown,
And these were the men who worked on the planes but kept their feet on the ground;*

*We all know the name of Lindbergh, and we've read of his flight to fame
But think, if you can, of his maintenance man, can you remember his name?*

*And think of our wartime heroes, Gabreski, Jabara, and Scott
Can you tell me the names of their Crew Chiefs? A thousand to one you cannot;*

*Now pilots are highly trained people, and wings are not easily won
But without the work of the maintenance man our pilots would march with a gun;*

*So when you see the mighty Hawkeye as it marks the way through the air,
Remember the grease stained man with the wrench in his hand is the man who put them there.*



Former Tigertail Commanding Officers

CDR J. R. SHUAB, JR	OCT 68	—	OCT 69
CDR G. S. TUTTLE	OCT 69	—	OCT 70
CDR W. P. COURTNEY, JR	OCT 70	—	OCT 71
CDR T. P. McCLENAHAN	OCT 71	—	OCT 72
CDR E. A. COOPER	OCT 72	—	AUG 73
CDR B. L. FISH	AUG 73	—	JUL 74
CDR T. L. ZACHOWSKI	JUL 74	—	AUG 75
CDR R. C. GENTZ	AUG 75	—	JUL 76
CDR H. R. DOMBROWSKI	JUL 76	—	JUL 77
CDR J. E. CONNERTON	JUL 77	—	OCT 78
CDR W. J. MOOBERRY	OCT 78	—	OCT 79
CDR H. E. SELIGSON	OCT 79	—	JAN 81
CDR L. L. FOLTZER	JAN 81	—	APR 82
CDR C. R. SAFFELL	APR 82	—	SEP 83
CDR J. L. OGLE, JR	SEP 83	—	MAR 85
CDR R. K. ZIA	MAR 85	—	SEP 86
CDR W. R. SISLEY	SEP 86	—	JAN 88
CDR D. R. NEWMAN	JAN 88	—	MAY 89
CDR G. H. MEARS	MAY 89	—	NOV 90
CDR H. O. McDANIEL	NOV 90	—	MAR 92
CDR M. D. SULLIVAN	MAR 92	—	AUG 93
CDR G. E. CARTER	AUG 93	—	OCT 94
CDR J. P. WILKINS	OCT 94	—	DEC 95
CDR R. R. GARCIA	DEC 95	—	FEB 97
CDR K. D. McCARTY	FEB 97	—	SEP 98
CDR J. M. CANTRELL	SEP 98	—	JAN 00
CDR R. H. RICARDO	JAN 00	—	MAY 01
CDR H. M. ROBINSON	MAY 01	—	JUL 02
CDR G. C. ACKERMANN	JUL 02	—	NOV 03
CDR E. W. GARDNER	NOV 03	—	MAR 05
CDR K. R. JOHNSON	MAR 05	—	MAY 06
CDR K. R. KETCHUM	MAY 06	—	AUG 07
CDR D. L. TIDWELL	AUG 07	—	OCT 08
CDR C. W. BANNISTER	OCT 08	—	FEB 10
CDR M. L. PEKO	FEB 10	—	APR 11
CDR J. P. GARDNER	APR 11	—	JUL 12
CDR S. A. AVERY	JUL 12	—	OCT 13

The responsibility of the Commanding Officer for his command is absolute. The authority to the Commanding Officer is commensurate with his responsibility. While he may, at his discretion and when not contrary to law or regulations, delegate authority to his subordinates for the execution of details, such delegation of authority shall in no way relieve the Commanding Officer of his continued responsibility for the safety, well-being, and efficiency of his entire Command.

-U.S. NAVY REGULATIONS



Captain
Robert D. Boyer
United States Navy
Commander
Carrier Air Wing ONE



Captain Boyer is a native of (b) (6) a and a graduate of Oregon State University. He received his commission through the Aviation Officer Candidate School in Pensacola Florida

and was designated a Naval Aviator in May 1988. Upon completion of F/A-18 training in Lemoore California he was subsequently forward deployed in Japan to the "Dambusters" of VFA-195. While aboard the USS MIDWAY (CV 41), Captain Boyer participated in Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. The squadron transitioned to USS INDEPENDENCE (CV 62) and he made one deployment in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH. He attended the Navy Fighter Weapons School during this tour.

Captain Boyer's next assignment was with the "Black Birds" of VF-45 in Key West Florida as an adversary pilot flying the F-16, F-5, A-4, and F/A-18. The next tour was as Carrier Air Wing THREE as CAG Strike Operations. He flew with the VFA-105 "Gunslingers" and made one deployment aboard USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71) in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH. Captain Boyer then reported to the VFA-83 "Rampagers" in Jacksonville, Florida. He served as the squadron's Maintenance and Operations Officer during a summer Mediterranean cruise embarked in DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69) flying in support of Operations DELIBERATE GUARD, DELIBERATE FORCE and SOUTHERN WATCH.

In August 2003, Captain Boyer reported to the "Mighty Shrikes" as Executive Officer of VFA-94 on deployment aboard USS NIMITZ (CVN 68) supporting Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. In January 2005 he assumed command of the squadron and deployed aboard USS NIMITZ (CVN 68) supporting Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.

Captain Boyer's shore assignments include the Joint Warfare Analysis Center in Dahlgren, Virginia, at OPNAV as the Executive Assistant to the Director, Navy Staff, and attendance at the Marine Corps War College in Quantico, Virginia earning a Master of Arts in Strategic Studies.

Captain Boyer's current assignment started as Deputy Commander, Carrier Air Wing ONE and assumed the duties of Commander, Carrier Air Wing ONE on 15 August 2012.

Captain Boyer has accumulated over 4,000 flight hours and 1,000 arrested landings. His decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, four Strike Flight Air Medals, four Navy Commendation Medals one with a Combat Distinguishing Device, and various other unit and service decorations.

The Navy Flyer's Creed

I am a United States Navy Flyer.
My countrymen built the best airplane in the world
and entrusted it to me. They trained me to fly it.
I will use it to the absolute limit of my power.

With my fellow pilots, air crews, and deck crews, my
plane and I will do anything necessary to carry out our
tremendous responsibilities.
I will always remember we are part of an unbeatable
combat team--the United States Navy.

When the going is fast and rough, I will not falter.
I will be uncompromising in every blow I strike. I will be
humble in victory.

I am a United States Navy flyer.
I have dedicated myself to my country, with its many
millions of all races, colors, and creed.
They and their way of life are worthy of my greatest
protective effort.
I ask the help of God in making that effort great enough.

~Anonymous Naval Aviator

Third Class Petty Officers



(b) (6)

Future Tigertail Petty Officers

(b) (6)



**Commander
Daryl E. Trent**
United States Navy
Prospective Executive Officer
VAW-125



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Operation DESERT SHIELD.

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In March 2000, CDR Trent reported to the "Seahawks" of VAW-126, onboard USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75). He served as Legal Officer, Assistant Maintenance Officer and NFO NATOPS Officer. In December 2001, he graduated from the U.S. Navy Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN) at NAS Fallon, Nevada and was the 2002 Carrier Airborne Early Warning Wing Hawkeye NFO of the Year (Sea). He completed two Mediterranean / Arabian Gulf deployments in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH and flew combat missions during the initial air strikes of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM in the last squadron to deploy with E-2C Group Zero aircraft.

In 2003, CDR Trent joined the Weapons and Tactics Unit (Atlantic) and was designated a Weapons and Tactics Instructor (WTI) and was the Hawkeye Advanced Readiness Program Director. During this assignment he was selected as the 2005 Carrier Airborne Early Warning Wing Hawkeye NFO of the Year (Shore).

In 2005, following refresher training at VAW-120 in Norfolk, VA, CDR Trent reported to VAW-123. In his CAT 1AWTI tour as a "Screwtop" he deployed onboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.

In 2006, CDR Trent was assigned to the Navy Personnel Command in Millington, TN as the VAW-VRC Assignment Officer until November 2008. While serving as the community detailee, CDR Trent earned his Master of Science in Operations Management from the University of Arkansas. In April 2009, CDR Trent reported to the "Bear Aces" of VAW-124 for his Department Head tour onboard USS GEORGE H. W. BUSH (CVN 77) where he held the jobs of Maintenance Officer and Operations Officer and participated in Operation UNIFIED RESPONSE while on detachment in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

In April 2011, CDR Trent reported to the "Greyhaws" of VAW-120, the E-2/C-2 Fleet Replacement Squadron, where he served as the Executive Officer.

His personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Strike Flight Air Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (seven awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (four awards), and various unit, campaign, and service awards. He is married to Dr. Cindy Trent and they have three children Nic, Ryan and Grace.

CMDCM(AW/SW)
Michael L. Reese
United States Navy
Command Master Chief
VAW-125



Master Chief Reese was raised in (b) (6), and graduated from William Campbell High School in June 1989. Following completion of Recruit Training and Signalman (SM) "A" School, he reported to USS AMERICA (CV 66) for duty from December of 1989 to August of 1993. During this tour, he qualified Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist and advanced to Petty Officer Second Class.

Following his tour on USS AMERICA, Master Chief Reese reported for duty to USS PETERSON (DD 969) from August 1993 to June 1995 where he served as Signal Bridge Leading Petty Officer.

Master Chief Reese reported next to Chief of Naval Operations Security Staff, Washington, DC from September 1995 to September 1999 where he served as Security Shift Supervisor and was advanced to Petty Officer First Class.

He reported next to USS OSCAR AUSTIN (DDG 79) from September 1999 to December 2003 where he served as Navigation Leading Chief Petty Officer, Training Officer and Chief Master-at-Arms. He was advanced to Chief Petty Officer, qualified as Officer of the Deck underway and converted to Master-at-Arms.

Master Chief Reese reported to Naval Station Norfolk, Sewell's Point Police Precinct from December 2003 to August 2006. He served as Security Operations LCPO and was advanced to Senior Chief Petty Officer.

Upon completion of his tour at Naval Station, he completed the Senior Enlisted Academy, Class 127, and reported to USS GEORGE H W BUSH (CVN 77) for duty from October 2006 to September 2008. He served as Operations Department and Security Division LCPO, advanced to Master Chief Petty Officer and selected for the Command Master Chief program.

In November 2008 he assumed duties as the Command Master Chief of Fleet Logistics Support Squadron (VRC-40) until February 2012 and qualified Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist.

Master Chief Reese's awards include the Navy Commendation Medal (four awards), Navy Achievement Medal (five awards), and Navy Good Conduct Medal (seven awards), and various campaign and personal awards.

Master Chief Reese is married to the former (b) (6) of Concord, Virginia, and has one son (b) (6).

First Class Petty Officers



AE1(AW) Luis A. Abreu	AZ1(AW) Derick J. Boyd
AT1(AW) Douglas D. Dvorak	NC1(AW/SW/FMF) Ishmael Harris
AT1(AW/SW) Jason P. Hecker	PS1(AW/SW) Seya P. Hill
AT1(AW) Jacob T. Kauffman	AT1(AW) Kurt R. Kuroski
AM1(AW/SW) Randall F. McCue	AM1(AW) Francis K. Obeya
AD1(AW) Kevin R. Roach	AT1(AW/SW) Van T. Soil
PR1(AW) Andrew P. Tapley	LS1(AW/SW) Tanesha R. Young

Second Class Petty Officers



MA2 Thomas W. Anderson	YN2(AW/SW) Charles S. Barnes
LS2(AW/SW) Kylie A. Bowers	AT2(AW) Landon L. Brown
AME2(AW) Courtney N. Cordova	PS2(AW/SW) Maria J. Daniels
AM2 Toby S. Dial	AZ2 Jessica K. Dumas
AM2 Tyler J. East	AD2(AW) Christopher R. Edge
AM2(AW) Franklyn R. Edwards	LS2(AW/SW) Jonquil R. Erb
AD2(AW) Noah A. Goldsmith	AM2(AW) David C. Gronlund
AME2(AW) Andrew T. Hagerty	LS2 Garry D. Jackson
AD2(AW) Latasha M. Lawrence	PR2(AW) Vironn P. Libranda
AM2 Scott M. Long	AM2(AW) Matthew B. Lyden
AT2(AW) Kyle J. Magnuson	YN2(AW) Anthony B. McCain
AD2(AW) Marcus D. Miciotto	AE2(AW) Daniel J. Missich
YN2(AW) Anthony S. Mullins	AT2(AW) Shawn M. Myers
AT2(AW) Charles A. Naranong	AD2(AW) William J. Norton
AD2 Kristopher L. Popovic	AT2 Jacob C. Scott
AM2(AW/SW) Nigel C. Swift	AME2(AW/SW) Ana M. Wilson
AD2(AW) David C. Worth	

VAW-125 Squadron History

VAW-125, the "Torchbearers" or "Tigertails", served in over 20 deployments since its commission on October 1, 1968 at Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia. Since that day, VAW-125 has been an integral asset to our nation, tirelessly responding to the call of our homeland.

Operation THUNDERBOLT	Operation DELIBERATE FORGE
Operation DESERT SHIELD	Operation NOBLE EAGLE
Operation DENY FLIGHT	Operation IRAQI FREEDOM
Operation PROVIDE PROMISE	Operation URGENT RESPONSE
Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR	Operation NEW DAWN
Operation SOUTHERN WATCH	Operation ENDURING FREEDOM

1968: Squadron commissioned and was the first to operationally employ the E-2B Hawkeye.

1981: The first VAW command assigned to Counter Narcotics Tasking. VAW-125 also provided range control services for the second launch of the NASA Space Shuttle.

1985: Intercepted an Egyptian airliner carrying hijackers of the Italian cruise ship, *Achille Lauro*. The Tigertail crew convinced hijackers to allow the airliner to divert to NAS Sigonella, IT.

1991: Vectored two F/A-18 fighters in the intercept of two Iraqi MiGs, recording the only Navy fixed-wing air-to-air kills of Operation DESERT STORM.

1999: Counter Narcotics deployment to Puerto Rico, assisting in the combined seizure of over 20,000 pounds of cocaine, the largest Atlantic seizure in Seventh District Coast Guard history.

2001: In response to 11 September 2001, VAW-125 executed Command and Control missions for the New York City area.

2003: The first squadron to transition to the E-2C Hawkeye 2000.

2008: Participated in Counter-Drug Operations in Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles resulting in the apprehension of over 2,000 kilograms of cocaine.

2010 – 2012: Completed three back to back deployments involving humanitarian relief efforts, support for operations in the Western Pacific and Arabian Gulf, and performed essential involvement with Exercise BEACON FLASH with Oman, and Exercise MALABAR with the Indian Navy and Air Forces.

As the first fleet squadron to receive the E-2B and the E-2C Hawkeye 2000, the Tigertails have continued the legacy as pioneers of the Hawkeye community in being the first fleet squadron to transition to the E-2D Advanced Hawkeye. VAW-125 continues to stand the watch and is ready to meet its world-wide commitments and responsibilities in the long-standing *Tigertail* tradition of being *Torchbearers* for our nation's forces.



Commander
Scott A. Avery
United States Navy
Commanding Officer
VAW-125



Commander Scott "Mongo" Avery was born and raised in (b) (6). After enlisting in the Navy in 1988, and serving as a Radioman aboard submarines out of Groton, CT, he was selected for the Enlisted Commissioning Program in 1993 and attended Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA. He graduated Magna Cum Laude, earning a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice in 1995.

He reported to Naval Flight Officer training in Pensacola, FL. Upon completion of flight training, he selected the E-2C Hawkeye and reported to VAW-120 in Norfolk, VA, where he received his Naval Flight Officer wings August, 1997.

CDR Avery reported to the Tigertails of VAW-125 in October of 1997 and completed two full deployment cycles supporting Operation SOUTHERN WATCH, DELIBERATE FORGE and various exercises in the CENTCOM area of responsibility serving aboard USS DWIGHT D EISENHOWER (CVN 69) and USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73). While in VAW-125, he held the positions of Legal Officer, Tactics Officer, Aviation Safety Officer, and Safety Officer.

In 2001, he was assigned to instructor duty at VAW-120 where he served as an NFO instructor, Legal/Discipline Officer, Schedules Officer, Aviation Safety Officer, and Flight Demonstration Team Member. He was chosen to be one of the first Hawkeye 2000 instructors and was directly involved in the development of the new student training syllabus.

In 2003, CDR Avery returned to sea duty and was assigned to Carrier Air Wing Seventeen where he served as the AEW Officer, Future Operations Officer, Air Planning Officer and Assistant Operations Officer. He deployed onboard USS JOHN F KENNEDY (CV 67) in support of Operations IRAQI and ENDURING FREEDOM. While with CVW-17, he developed a Dynamic Strike Lead Program for the E-2 Community and was responsible for the development of the first urban CAS training area in the United States. In 2005, he was selected as the "Hawkeye NFO of the Year" for his contributions to the E-2C community.

CDR Avery returned to VAW-125 in April 2006 as a Department Head and served as the Safety and Operations Officer. He helped lead the Tigertails through workups and an 8 month combat cruise in support of Operations IRAQI and ENDURING FREEDOM as well as operations in the Horn of Africa aboard USS DWIGHT D EISENHOWER (CVN 69). He was instrumental in helping the squadron win the 2007 Commander, Naval Air Forces U.S. Atlantic Fleet, Battle "E" and Frank Akers AEW Excellence Award.

CDR Avery then reported to US Joint Forces Command in December 2008 and was assigned as the Deputy Branch Chief, Friendly Force Tracking Branch, Joint Integrated Fires Division (J85). While assigned to USJFCOM, CDR Avery attended the Joint Forces Staff College and completed his JPME Phase II and designated as a Joint Qualified Officer.

Commander Avery's awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Strike Flight Air Medal (3), Navy and Marine Corp Commendation Medal (6), Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medal (3), and numerous command/unit awards. He is qualified as an E-2C Mission Commander and Air Wing Strike Lead, and has accumulated over 2,500 flight hours and over 550 arrested landings in the Hawkeye.



Commander
Timothy A. Wilson
United States Navy
Prospective Commanding Officer
VAW-125



Commander Wilson is a native of (b) (6) having graduated high school in 1987 from Canyon High, Canyon County, CA. He enlisted in 1989 to the Naval Nuclear Power Program. As an Electronics Technician, Petty Officer Wilson

attended Nuclear Field ET "A" School where he was distinguished as class honor man, appointed as an instructor at ET "A" School, and a distinguished graduate of Naval Nuclear Power School. He was commissioned in 1995 through the University of Southern California NROTC scholarship program having earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Physics. He continued his Naval Career as a student Naval Aviator.

Upon completion of flight school in 1997, Commander Wilson reported to the "Greyhawks" of VAW-120, the E-2C Hawkeye Fleet replacement Squadron at NAS Norfolk, Virginia. After carrier qualifications in the Hawkeye, he was assigned to the VAW-124 "Bear Aces" aboard the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71) where his very next trap as a new winged Aviator was during wartime strike missions into Kosovo during OPERATION ALLIED FORCE on the "tip of the spear". During this period he was recognized as the Hawkeye Pilot of the Year (at Sea) 2002.

Following his first fleet sea tour, Commander Wilson went on to complete an instructor shore tour with the Fleet Replacement Squadron VAW-120 "Greyhawks". After completing this shore tour, he returned to a disassociated sea tour assigned to the Carrier Air Wing Three (CVW 3) staff. During an at-sea period with CVW 3, he was hand-selected with a group of seven Officers and flown to Eglin AFB, Florida to stand up the Naval Air Liaison Element in support of Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts.

After refresher training at VAW-120, he reported to the "Wallbangers" of VAW-117 in Point Mugu, CA as a Department Head and again completed several western Pacific deployments as the Operations Officer and Maintenance Officer. Following that sea tour he was assigned to Naval War College in Newport, RI where he earned a Master of Arts Degree in National Strategic Studies. His next tour was also a non-flying joint tour serving for US Africa Command's Commander's personal staff and Joint Operations Center Team Chief during the Libyan conflict.

Commander Wilson has accumulated over 3,300 flight hours, over 350 arrested landings. He received the 2002 Navy Junior Officer Leadership Award by Commander, Naval Air Forces, "Hawkeye Pilot of the Year Award" recipient, Top Nugget Pilot, numerous "Top 10" Pilot and "Top Hook" recognitions, and is authorized to wear the Joint Meritorious Unit Commendation Medal, Air Medal (four awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (five awards), Joint Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various unit, campaign and service awards.

Top Tigertails

Sailor of the Year

(b) (6)

Junior Sailor of the Year

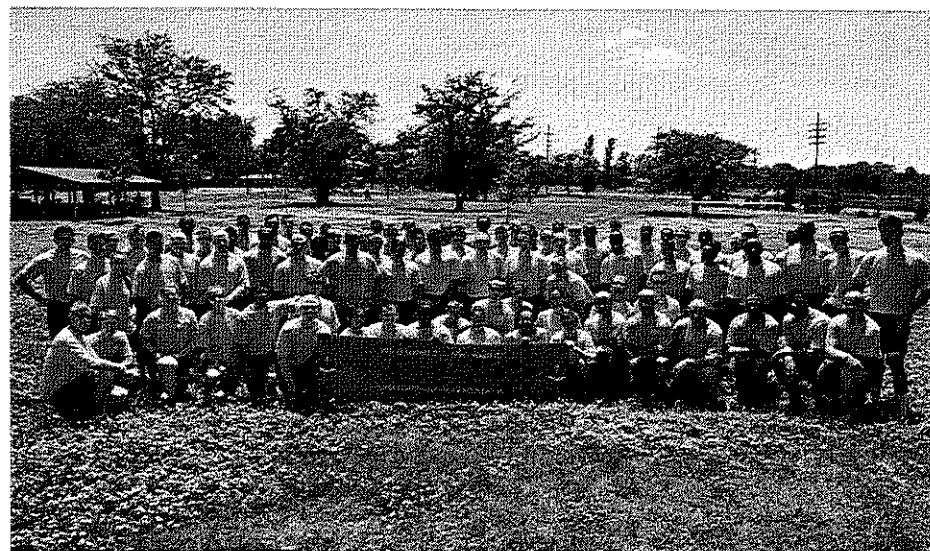
(b) (6)

Plane Captain of the Year

(b) (6)

Tigertail of the Year

(b) (6)



Excellence is the result of caring more than others think is wise, risking more than others think is safe, dreaming more than others think is practical, and expecting more than others think is possible.

Tigertail Officers

(b) (6)

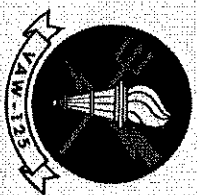


Chief Petty Officers

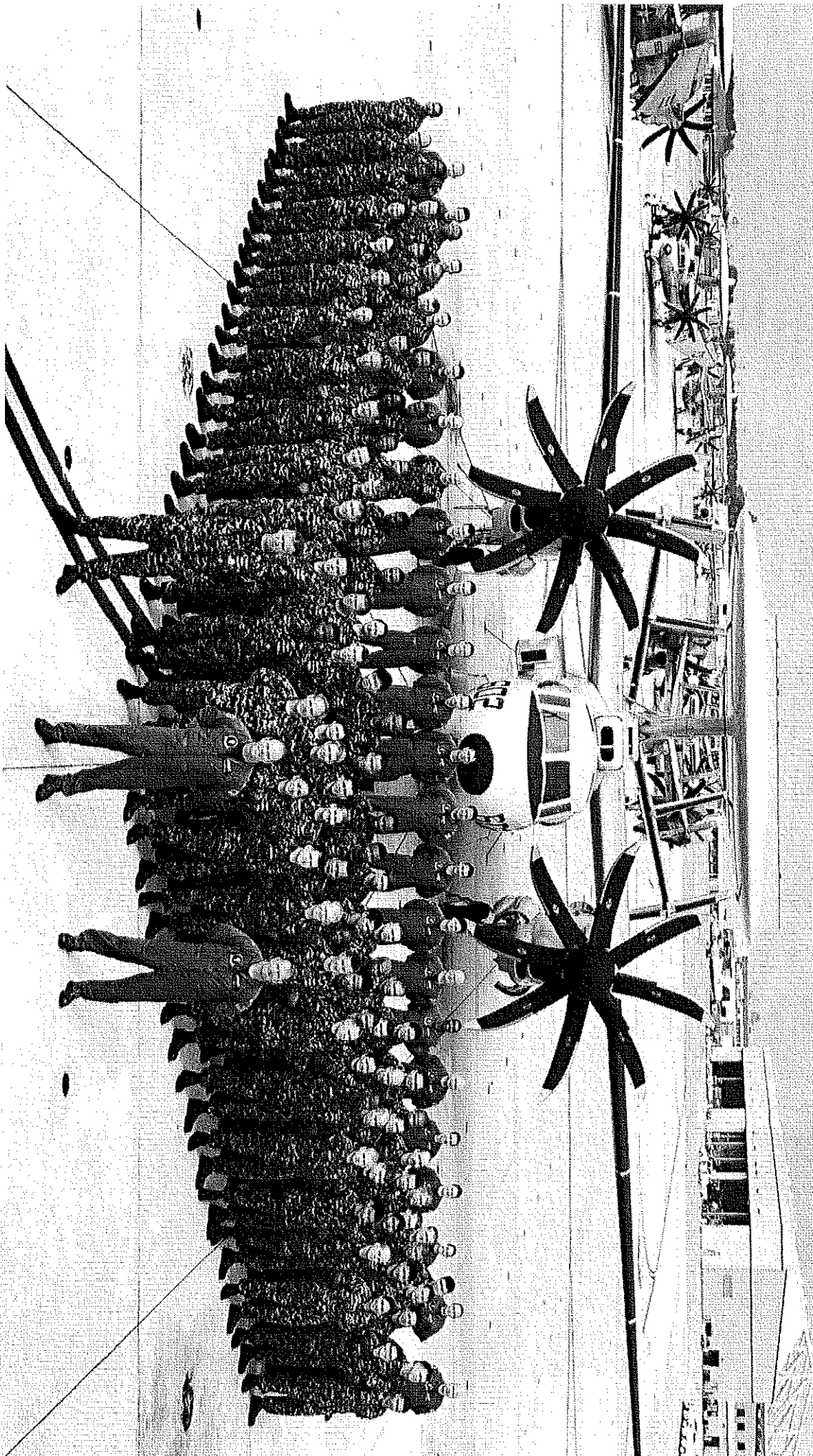


(b) (6)





VAM-125 Tigertails





DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
CARRIER AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SQUADRON
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE
FLEET POST OFFICE, AE 09507-6411

1650
00
18 Oct 13

From: Commanding Officer, Carrier Airborne Early Warning
Squadron ONE TWO FIVE
To: Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet
Via: (1) Commander, Carrier Air Wing ONE
(2) Commander, Airborne Command Control and Logistics
Wing

Subj: CALENDAR YEAR 2013 BATTLE EFFICIENCY AWARD SUBMISSION

Ref: (a) COMNAVAIRFORINST 1650.15G
(b) COMACCLOGWININST 3590.1F

Encl: (1) Battle Efficiency Award Submission for CY-2013

1. Per references (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is submitted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "T. A. Wilson", written over the printed name.
T. A. WILSON

**CARAEWRON ONE TWO FIVE TIGERTAILS
2013 BATTLE EFFICIENCY AWARD SUBMISSION**

1. Cost-Wise Readiness

a. Aircraft Material Efficiency

<u>Month</u>	<u>RFT Gap</u>	<u>Comments</u>
OCT	1.11	Fort Worth Air Show, 2 Aircraft in PMI
NOV	1.20	VIRTUAL FLAG 13-1, 2 Aircraft in PMI
DEC	0.41	2 Aircraft in PMI
JAN	1.85	2 Aircraft in PMI
FEB	0.90	CVW-17 A/A SFARP support detachment to Key West, FL, 2 Aircraft in PMI
MAR	1.00	2 Aircraft in PMI
APR	1.71	2 Aircraft in PMI, 1 Aircraft in SCS 7.0 Mod
MAY	0.00	2 Aircraft in PMI, Hangar move, Transfer Aircraft 603 and 604
JUN	0.00	Squadron executing E-2D transition
JUL	0.00	Squadron executing E-2D transition, Transfer Aircraft 602
AUG	0.00	Squadron executing E-2D transition, Transfer Aircraft 600
SEP	0.00	Squadron executing E-2D transition

b. Schedule Performance Index

<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Hrs Planned</u>	<u>Hrs Executed</u>	<u>Index</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1Q FY12	170.5	132.9	0.779	
2Q FY12	221.0	147.9	0.669	
3Q FY12	12.0	6.4	0.533	
4Q FY12	0.0	0.0	1.000	
TOTAL	403.5	287.2	0.712	

2. Performance Readiness

a. Operational Achievements

(1) COMPTUEX Grade: N/A

(2) Air Wing Fallon grade: N/A

(3) Landing Grades

(a) Air Wing average: 3.269

(b) Squadron grade: 4.000

Enclosure (1)

(4) Boarding Rates

(a) Air Wing average rate:

1. Day: 95.04%
2. Night: 92.53%

(b) Squadron rate: 100.0%

1. Day: 100.0%
2. Night: 100.0%

(5) Deployed Theater-Specific Combat and Operational
Tasking: N/A

b. Training Readiness

(1) Exercise Participation:

- (a) VIRTUAL FLAG 13-1
- 09NOV12-17NOV12
- (b) CVW-17 Air to Air SFARP
- 09FEB13-27FEB13
- 24 sorties / 45.3 hours

(2) Simulator Usage:

- (a) Simulator hours scheduled: 331.0
- (b) Simulator hours used: 331.0

- (3) Number of flight crew progressing 1 ACTC level: 8
- Number progressing 2 ACTC levels: 2

c. Inspection Accomplishments

(1) Naval Air Training and Operating Procedures
Standardization (NATOPS) Unit Evaluation score: EXCELLENT,
Pilot Avg: 3.85, NFO Avg: 3.86

d. Material Readiness

(1) Aviation Maintenance Inspection (AMI) score:
33 On track, 5 Need more attention, 1 off track (FY2010)

(2) Material Condition Inspection (MCI) score:
SATISFACTORY

(3) Cannibalization rate per 100 flight hours: 14.2

e. Personnel Readiness

(1) Retention Rate Zone A (first term): 62.5%

(a) Eligible: 16

(b) Reenlisted: 10

(2) Retention Rate Zone B (second term): 100%

(a) Eligible: 2

(b) Reenlisted: 2

(3) Retention Rate Zone C (third term or subsequent):
100%

(a) Eligible: 2

(b) Reenlisted: 2

(4) Advancement rate for E-4, E-5 and E-6: 50%

(a) Eligible: 100

(b) Took exam: 100

(c) Selected: 50

(d) Passed/Not Advanced: 48

(5) Percentage of assigned personnel within all physical
readiness standards:

(a) PRT: 98.6%

(b) Medical: 98.6%

(c) Dental: 95.7%

(6) College Courses/JPME Completed: 122/0

f. Safety

(1) Alpha Mishaps: 0

(2) Bravo Mishaps: 0

(3) Charlie Mishaps: 1 injury to service member's right hand due to fireworks explosion

(4) FOD Occurrences: 0

(5) HAZREPS submitted: 4

(6) NATOPS changes submitted: 0

(7) NATOPS changes accepted: 0

(8) Safety articles submitted: 0

(9) Safety articles accepted: 1

g. Contributions to Weapons Systems and Tactics

(1) Tactical documents submitted: 0

(2) Tactical documents accepted: 0

(3) Tactical projects completed: 0

(4) TACMAN changes submitted: 0

(5) TACMAN changes accepted: 0

(6) Professional articles submitted: 0

(7) Professional articles accepted: 0

3. General Contributions

a. In 2013, the Tigertails faced the challenges of operating in Naval Aviation's fiscally austere environment post-deployment, supporting CVW-17's Air-to-Air SFARP, and preparing for the inaugural fleet squadron E-2D Advanced Hawkeye airframe transition.

b. While conducting proficiency flights from October 2012 to January 2013, the Tigertail Aircrew earned 12 Aircrew Combat Training Continuum upgrades.

c. The Tigertails exceeded all RFT and funding-limited expectations and achieved a 96.4% sortie completion rate while supporting CVW-17's Air-to-Air SFARP detachment at NAS Key West, Florida.

d. Upon returning from CVW-17's SFARP detachment, preparations began in earnest as the squadron performed two extensive Preventative Maintenance Health Assessments, divested its remaining two aircraft, relocated to a different hangar, and initiated the squadron-wide E-2D Transition training syllabus. In April, VAW-125 joined Team Tarbox, reporting to CVW-1.

e. More than 100 Maintenance personnel completed 182 E-2D training courses and earned 633 E-2D qualifications. One Aircrew completed the CNAF transition syllabus and attained an E-2D NATOPS Qualification.

f. The Tigertails have been critical to developing CSG-12's unprecedented integrated operational readiness through participation in more than 25 training sessions for Advanced Hawkeye employment and Naval Integrated Fire Control - Counter Air tactics, liaising between multiple CSG, Weapons Schools, NAVAIR, and other units.

g. Throughout FY2013, the Tigertails flew 287.2 mishap-free hours in the E-2C and 192.5 hours in the E-2D as the initial fleet transition squadron and achieved the 5 year mishap-free milestone.

1650
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FIRST ENDORSEMENT on VAW-125 ltr 1650 of 18 Oct 13

From: Commander, Carrier Air Wing ONE
To: Commander, Naval Air Forces
Via: Commander, Airborne Command Control and Logistics Wing

Subj: CALENDAR YEAR 2013 BATTLE EFFICIENCY AWARD SUBMISSION

1. Forwarded with my strongest possible personal recommendation for selection for the 2013 Battle Efficiency Award for excellence in Airborne Early Warning and Command and Control.

2. VAW-125 performed brilliantly throughout 2013. They consistently set the highest standards for professionalism in Carrier Air Wing SEVENTEEN (CVW-17) and Carrier Air Wing ONE (CVW-1). Despite operating in a fiscally austere environment, they overcame significant logistical challenges and supported CVW-17's A/A SFARP detachment, achieving a 96.4% sortie completion rate with only two aircraft and extremely limited material support. As the first E-2C squadron to begin the transition to the E-2D Advanced Hawkeye, the Tigertails proactively engaged Carrier Strike Group TWELVE (CSG-12), CVW-1, and the Air Defense Commander (ADC) to host the first Air Defense Syndicate for units preparing to deploy with Naval Integrated Fire Control - Counter Air capability. During the transition, they integrated syllabus training flights with early participation in network and sensor operations with the ADC. Their involvement with the Command Control and Logistics Weapons School in developing new tactics, techniques, and procedures for the E-2D will influence command and control warfare for decades to come.

3. Of all the Hawkeye squadrons I have observed throughout my career in Naval Aviation, VAW-125 is most deserving of the recognition afforded by the Battle Efficiency Award.

R. D. BOYER

Copy to:
CO, VAW-125

01 Nov 13

SECOND ENDORSEMENT on VAW-125 ltr 1650 of 18 Oct 13

From: Commander, Airborne Command Control and Logistics
Wing

To: Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet

Subj: CALENDAR YEAR 2013 BATTLE EFFICIENCY AWARD SUBMISSION

1. Forwarded with my strongest possible personal recommendation for selection as the 2013 Commander Naval Air Forces Atlantic VAW Battle Efficiency Award recipient.

2. The unparalleled performance of the Tigertails culminated in the decision to make them the first squadron to transition to the E-2D Advanced Hawkeye. While preparing to transfer their E-2C aircraft, they answered Carrier Air Wing SEVENTEEN's call for support during their SFARP detachment. Although limited by having only two aircraft and few spare parts, they achieved a remarkable 96.4% sortie completion rate. The Tigertails assumed a proactive role throughout the transition, identifying improvements to all training processes and making frequent contributions to the developing tactics, techniques, and procedures of the Advanced Hawkeye. Their efforts will ensure the successful fielding of the E-2D and Naval Integrated Fire Control - Counter Air capabilities. They have set the standard for all future squadrons to emulate during their transitions.

3. VAW-125's tactical prowess, dedication to teamwork, and impressive ability to adapt to any situation make them an exceptional candidate for these prestigious awards. They have earned my complete faith and confidence. The Tigertails have my strongest recommendation for selection as the 2013 Commander Naval Air Forces Atlantic VAW Battle Efficiency Award.

T. M. WATKINS

